information to be given to the bidder, information sought from the bidder, evaluation criteria, etc. Issues reiated to Valuation—

Balance sheets of SEBs have to be restructured as part of the overall sector-restructuring exercise, irrespective of the model followed for private sector participation. Employee related Issues:—

Adequate preparatory work is required to dispel the fears of the employees that private sector perticipation would lead to large scale retrenchmant or affect job security/service conditions. The political leaders also have to be oriented to reforms. Dialogues with employees can be opened. Excess manpower has to be redeployed and retrained VRS package in the form of a pension scheme can be tried. The process of transfer should be legislated for in the Reforms Bill.

Subsidised Power Supply in the States

83. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that most of the State Electricity Boards are running at a loss mainly due to the subsidised supply of power lo farmers;

(b)if so, the States which are supplying power to farmers and also for domestic use at subsidised rates, and the extent of subsidy given during the years 1994-95, 95-96, 96-97 and 97-98; and

(c) how far this loss due to subsidy has been compensated by the Central Government/State Government?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Subsidised supply of power to different sectors is also one of the reasons for losses.

(b) and (c) Generally all SEBs are supplying power to farmers and domestic consumers at subsidised rates. As per information available, the subsidy given by State Governments for the years 1994-95, 95-96, 96-97 and 97-98 is given in the Statement.

Statement

Subsidy given by State Government during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97

s. No.	Name	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1.	APSEB	944.00	0.00*	0.00*
2.	ASEB	0	0.00	0.00
3.	BSEB	0.00	0.00	N/A
4.	GEB	215.00	459.00	262.53
5.	HPSEB	0.00	0.00	0.05
6.	HSEB	465.10	192.00*	219.32
7.	KEB	206.53	551.00	553.00
8.	KSEB	0.77	1.00	0.00
9.	MESEB	N/A	8.00	N/A
10	MPEB	219.82	592.00*	310.00
11	MSEB	0.00	631.00	258.71
12	OSEB	161.00	190.00	N.E.
13	PSEB	0.00	468.00	0.00
14	RSEB	360.73	235.00	44.48
15	TNEQ	350.06	416.00	370.10
16	UPSEB	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	WBSEB	30.10	82.00	55.00

* Excluding Adjustment Against S.G. Loans.
** Excluding Adjustment Against S.G. Equity.

N.A. — Not Available. N.E. — Not in Existence.

Source — PFC

Cracks in Tehri Dam

84. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government are aware of the cracks reported recently in the under construction Tehri Dam; if so, the details' reports Government have received in this regard;

(b)whether Government have deputed/ sent any team of experts to study the reasons and the implications of the cracks on the project, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the immediate remedial measures Government have taken to ensure technical viability of the project and also to allay fears of the local people after reported cracks?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) The work on the four Control Gate Sheft Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4, each 40 Mtrs, apart in the Power House Complex of Tehri HE Project Stage-I (1000 MW) is in progress. While the area around Control Gate Shaft No. 1, 2 & 4 is stable and competent rock is available at the top, the portion in front of Control Gate Shaft No. 3, has loose overburden (loose material) over the rock. The cracks were noticed only in the overburden portion at the front of Control Gate Shaft No 3, which is located away from the dam area. The cracks are due to slumping in the overburden areas a result of heavy rain.

The Technical Advisory Committere (TAC) consisting of independent renowned experts has visited the site and have categorically stated in their report that there is no such manifestation, of cracks in the dam or in the Shafts. The TAC has stated that all the four reinforced concrete lined gate shafts go into sound rock and no problems are anticipated in their construction or operation. The TAC has stated that areas in front of Shaft No. 3 has some slump in the soil portion of the slope and such soil movement is not a surprise. The slopes are to be eased and suitably treated after completion of intake works. The TAC has concluded that the permanent works have shown no distress and there is no cause of any apprehension in their safety. THDC is taking appropriate remedial measures as advised by TAC to ensure stability of this portion of hill slope. Work is planned to be undertaken to strengthen and stabilise this portion after removal of the loose overburden mass.

Award of "O Unity" to NRI

85. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleaed to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that "O Unit" of 20 MW was awarded, by NLC in favour of NRI;

(b)if so, the reasons for handing over such a convenient and cost efective project to NRI without a proven track record and financial back-up in a record time without compliance to the set procedure and justification therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that inspite of such official backing the project was not made any heading and the progress is deadslow, while the NLC is proposing to undertake another fresh project; and

(d) what steps have been taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC a public sector undertaking, has been operating a capacity of 2070 MW based on the lignite mined by it in the Neyveli area in Tamil Nadu. There was a proposal to have another unit to produce 210 MW of electricity, based on the surplus quantity of lignite available with it. The proposal was accorded techno-.economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 10.8.1988, and was approved by the Public Investment Board (PIB) on 23.3.1989. Owing to a resource crunch, NLC was unable to pursue the project and, in keeping with the liberalisation of the economic policy, decided to entrust the entire project to a private developer, Government of India conveyed its approval on 14.08.1992 to the decision of NLC pursuant to which a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 31.08.1992 between NLC and as NRIs concern. M/s ST Power System Inc., USA for handing over the "Zero Unit" to be built and operated by M£ St-CMS Electric Company which was jointly promoted by M£ CMS Generation